Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, with the following amended paragraph.

Figure 13 shows the effect of GFP double-stranded RNA injection on transient expression of GFP in [rat] murine cell culture.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 36, line 10, with the following amended paragraph.

Double-stranded GFP RNA was prepared as described in Example I. [Rat] Murine NIH/3T3 cells were transfected with pEGFP-N1 and double stranded GFP RNA using a standard transfection procedure. First, cells (~2x 10^5 per well) were seeded in a six-well tissue culture plate in 2 ml of DMEM with 10% FBS. The cells were then incubated at 37°C in a CO_2 incubator until they were about 70-80 % confluent (i.e., 18-24 hours).